The Journal of the Institute of Medical Ethics

The Journal of Medical Ethics was established in 1975, with a multidisciplinary editorial board, to promote the study of contemporary medico-moral problems. The editorial board has as its aims the encouragement of a high academic standard for this developing subject and the influencing of the quality of both professional and public discussion. The journal is published quarterly and includes papers on all aspects of medical ethics, analyses ethical concepts and theories and features case conferences and comment on clinical practice. It also contains book reviews.

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Four copies of the journal will be sent to authors free of charge after their papers are published. Offprints of individual papers may be bought from Professional and Scientific Publications, Tavistock House East, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR.

In March 1981 the JME adopted a simplified 'Vancouver style' for references: details are given in various issues including December 1983, p 234. They are also available from the editorial office. The full text of the 'Vancouver Agreement' was published in the British Medical Journal in 1982; volume 284; 1766–70. As the 'Vancouver style' is incompatible with the long established style of references for legal articles, lawyers should use their own standard style, but avoid abbreviations so as to facilitate reference by others. The journal is multidisciplinary and papers should be in clear jargon-free English, accessible to any intelligent reader.

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Thematic review and index

The thematic review of past issues appears in the June issue each year and an index to each volume appears in the December issue.

making a decision. Each posture has advantages and disadvantages. Failure of either to work in some situations does not necessarily invalidate it for others. Criticisms based on an antiquated image of the paternalistic physician, however, have no value. Paternalism needs to be evaluated logically, and any forceful critique must examine the practices and principles of modern paternalism.

Gary B Weiss MD PhD is Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine and of Human Biological Chemistry and Genetics at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.

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Institute news and notes

Professor R B Welbourn, Emeritus Professor of Surgical Endocrinology, and Chairman of the Governing Body of the Institute of Medical Ethics has received an honorary DSc from the Queen's University of Belfast.

Update

The Marchig Animal Welfare Award 1986

The Marchig Animal Welfare Award* serves the purpose of furthering the replacement of laboratory animals by alternative methods in scientific, commercial or educational fields. Thereby appreciation will be expressed to a person who makes an outstanding contribution to this specific scientific subject. Contributions will be judged annually by a distinguished Panel and Resource Group. The value of the Award is 40,000 Swiss Francs.

The award will be applicable to research work, teaching practice or the implementation of a new idea or technique or of an existing but previously not implemented procedure that will directly reduce the numbers of animals used.

Further details of this award and application forms for the competition are available from the Headquarters of the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA), 106 Jermyn Street, London SW19 6EE, UK, and should be returned after completion to the Director-General of WSPA, with the contributions clearly marked MARCHIG ANIMAL WELFARE

AWARD, to arrive not later than the 30th September 1986.

The Awards Committee reserves the right not to make an award in any given year, if, in the opinion of the committee, the projects submitted fail to meet the required standards of applied animal welfare.

*donated by Mme Jeanne Marchig of Geneva and administered by the World Society for the Protection of Animals

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For the first time in its 14-year history, the Kennedy Institute of Ethics has initiated an international membership campaign. The Kennedy Institute comprises the largest faculty in the world devoted to full-time teaching and research in biomedical and applied ethics including issues in international relations, law, technology policy, government, business and journalism.

The institute presently has an interdisciplinary membership of professionals in medicine, academia,

law, business, and theology. However, membership is open to professionals, lay persons, and institutions. This latter category may prove to be immensely popular for organisations and groups wherein a single membership grants access to relevant publications shared by many.

At the heart of this campaign effort is the belief that 'open' membership – the inclusion of lay persons in the professional ranks due to a shared interest – is long overdue. The Kennedy Institute acknowledges that involvement in a world of ethical substance and reason concerns all of us, and has modified its goals and aspirations to move beyond a narrow focus of bioethics.

Membership is available in one of five categories: Institutional, \$150 USA, \$175 Foreign; Associate, \$50 USA, \$60 Foreign; Affiliate, \$25 USA, \$30 Foreign; Student, \$15 USA, \$20 Foreign; and Lifetime membership at \$500. Membership benefits include discounts on several publications including The Journal of Medicine and Philosophy, The Encyclopedia Bioethics, The Bibliography of Bioethics, the Kennedy Institute Scope Note series, and attendance at special seminars and conferences.

Journal of Medical Ethics

The Journal of the Institute of Medical Ethics

Volume Eleven Numbers 1-4

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Medical groups associated with the Institute of Medical Ethics have been established in British university teaching hospitals. Each academic year they arrange programmes of lectures and symposia on issues raised by the practice of medicine which concern other disciplines. Although these programmes are addressed primarily to medical, nursing and other hospital students they are open to all members of the medical, nursing and allied professions. There is no fee for attendance. Lecture lists are available by direct application to the appropriate co-ordinating secretary named above. A stamped addressed A4 envelope would be appreciated.

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The institute has been set up by the Society for the Study of Medical Ethics as a centre for research, education and information. It is financed by grants from charitable and government sources and from members' subscriptions.

The Institute of Medical Ethics is an independent, non-partisan organisation for the multidisciplinary study of medico-moral issues raised by the practice of medicine.

The institute aims to influence the quality of both professional and public discussion of medico-moral questions; to promote the study of medical ethics; to ensure a high academic standard for this developing subject; to encourage a multidisciplinary approach to discussion of the consequences of clinical practice; to stimulate research in specific problems, and to remain non-partisan and independent of all interest groups and lobbies.

The institute undertakes research on medico-moral questions, sponsors a major educational programme and provides an information service for members.

So far two reports have been published on: The Ethics of Resource Allocation in Health Care by Kenneth Boyd and Dilemmas of Dying by Ian Thompson.

Both are published by the Edinburgh University Press. Future reports will cover the ethics of clinical research investigations on children; public and professional attitudes to medical ethics, and teaching medical ethics.

The institute derives from the London Medical Group, a student group for the study of issues raised by the practice of medicine which, since 1963, has arranged a comprehensive programme of lectures and symposia on medico-moral issues raised by the practice of medicine. Similar groups associated with the institute have been established in university teaching hospitals at Aberdeen, Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Oxford, Sheffield and Southampton.

Membership of the institute is open to all those who work in the medical and allied professions or who have an interest in medical ethics. Members receive a monthly briefing on current developments, the Bulletin of the Institute of Medical Ethics.

Institute of Medical Ethics Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9LG

Tel: 01-387 8132

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